GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5121
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000
GAUGE CONVERSION OF CHENNAI-VILLUPURAM-TRICHY-MADURAI RAIL LINE
C. KRISHNAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of Chennai-Villupuram-Trichy-Madurai rail line;

(b) the length out of that converted into broad gauge;

(c) the time by which the whole strech would be converted into broad gauge along with total cost of the project at current rate;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Chennai-Villupuram section was electrified when the line was meter gauge;

(e) if so, the reasons for not electrifying the said line after conversion;

(f) whether there is any proposal to electrify the said line; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (g): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5121 BY DR. C. KRISHNAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 21.12.2000 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION OF CHENNAI-VILLUPURAM-T MADURAI RAIL LINE

(a): 501 km.

(b)&(c): The entire length has already been converted at an approx. cost of Rs. 800 crores.

(d): Yes, Sir.

(e): As part of the gauge conversion between Chennai Beach and Tiruchchirappalli a parallel broad gauge line was commissioned between Chennai Beach and Villupuram. Chennai Beach-Tambaram section which is a suburban section was electrified and Tambaram-Villupuram section being a non-suburban section not electrified. Electrification was not part of the gauge conversion project.

(f): Yes, Sir. The work to electrify the new parallel BG line between Tambaram and Villupuram is already sanctioned and is in progress.

(g): Electrification of parallel broad gauge line between Tambaram-Villupuram was included in the budget of 1999-2000. The section Tambaram-Chengalpattu is targeted for energisation by March 2001. Work on the Chengalpattu-Villupuram section will be taken up in the second phase and is targeted to be completed by March 2003.